

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES MCCARTY, Tuck

Introduced: 2/9/22

Referred: Rules

### A RESOLUTION

1    **Designating May 1 - 7, 2022, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week.**

2    **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3            **WHEREAS** many people with serious, chronic mental illness, such as schizophrenia,  
4    bipolar disorder, and severe depression, or gastrointestinal disorders, including gastroparesis,  
5    nausea, and vomiting, require treatment with medications that work as dopamine receptor  
6    blocking agents, including antipsychotics; and

7            **WHEREAS**, while ongoing treatment with dopamine receptor blocking agents can be  
8    very helpful, and even lifesaving, taking these medications can lead to tardive dyskinesia; and

9            **WHEREAS** tardive dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is characterized by  
10   random, involuntary, and uncontrolled movements of different muscles in the face, trunk, and  
11   extremities; and

12           **WHEREAS**, although not everyone who takes a dopamine receptor blocking agent  
13   develops tardive dyskinesia, the disorder can develop months, years, or decades after a person  
14   starts taking these medications, can continue even after the person has discontinued the use of  
15   the medications, and can even be permanent; and

16           **WHEREAS** it is estimated that over 500,000 Americans suffer from tardive

1 dyskinesia; and

2       **WHEREAS**, according to the National Alliance for Mental Illness, one in every four  
3 patients receiving long-term treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience  
4 tardive dyskinesia; and

5       **WHEREAS** years of difficult and challenging research have resulted in recent  
6 scientific breakthroughs, with two new treatments for tardive dyskinesia recently approved by  
7 the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

8       **WHEREAS**, because tardive dyskinesia is often unrecognized and patients suffering  
9 from it are commonly misdiagnosed, the American Psychiatric Association recommends  
10 regular screenings for tardive dyskinesia for patients taking dopamine receptor blocking  
11 agents; and

12       **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature supports raising awareness of tardive  
13 dyskinesia in the public and medical community;

14       **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature designates May 1 - 7, 2022, as  
15 Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week and encourages individuals in the state to become better  
16 informed about and aware of tardive dyskinesia.